

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Ekambar R. KANDIMALLA *et al.*

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For: Cooperative Oligonucleotides

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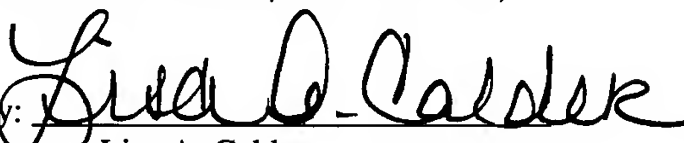
Examiner: Epps-Ford, Janet L.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Date: January 26, 2004

By: 
Lisa A. Calder

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits and in response to the Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures, please amend the specification to the above-captioned application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.